



Brooklyn Law School Campus Climate Survey Spring 2024

The New York State “Enough is Enough” legislation (Education Law Article 129-B) requires institutions to conduct a campus climate assessment survey at least every other year to ascertain student experiences with, and knowledge of, reporting and college adjudicatory processes for sexual harassment, including sexual violence, and other related crimes.

The 2024 Brooklyn Law School (BLS) Campus Climate Survey was first released on April 17, 2024 via email notification from the Dean of Students and digital signage, with a link to the survey, in the lobby of the Law School. Posters were displayed in various places throughout the Law School campus, including the library, cafeteria, student lounge, and Student Affairs offices. The survey was closed on May 15, 2024.

The survey at BLS, capturing a 4.9% response rate with 57 students participating, revealed a broad spectrum of student demographics and perceptions of campus safety, sexual violence, and institutional handling of sexual misconduct. This snapshot into student life provides a clearer understanding of the community's experiences and concerns.

Response Rates & Participant Demographic Information

The survey revealed a diverse participant pool, primarily composed of 3Ls (47.37%), followed by 2Ls (22.81%), and 1Ls (24.56%). A smaller segment included part-time (3.51%) and LLM students (1.75%). Most respondents live off-campus (70.18%), with 28.82% residing in Feil Hall.

Gender diversity showed that most responders were cisgender women (66.67%), with cisgender men making up 28.07%. Nonbinary responders accounted for 1.75%, with no one identifying as transgender. Regarding sexual orientation, 61.4% of responders identified as heterosexual, while 21.05% identified as bisexual, and 7.02% as queer.

In terms of race and ethnicity, most responders were white (76.19%). Other represented groups included Middle Eastern (6.35%), Hispanic/Latino (4.76%), Black or African American (3.17%), and a small percentage from Native American, Indigenous, Asian, Southeast Asian, or North African backgrounds.

Perception of Sexual Violence at BLS

There is a perception that various forms of sexual violence are an issue at BLS. In terms of feeling safe on campus, 66.66% of responders say they feel either very or extremely safe on campus, while the remaining 33.34% say they either feel somewhat, a little, or not at all safe. While the majority of responders believe that rape and sexual assault are not at all prevalent, 8.89% said that sexual assault is very prevalent. The majority of responders believe that sexual harassment is a little or somewhat prevalent, while stalking, cyber sexual abuse, and intimate

partner violence is viewed as a little prevalent at BLS. Of note, 22.22% of responders think that sexual harassment is very prevalent at BLS.

Trainings & Consent Education

1L trainings and Student Leader trainings at BLS are mandatory. 100% of 1L students attend TIX training at the beginning of fall semester their 1L year. 100% of student leaders attend TIX Student Leader training when they become student leaders. 50% of the students who took the survey said that they agree that the trainings they received were helpful.

The majority of those surveyed know about the critical components of affirmative consent. 41.03% of responders believe they are very knowledgeable about New York State's definition of affirmative consent while 10.26% of responders claim to not be knowledgeable about this definition. Most responders are either somewhat or very aware of the definition of affirmative consent. Most responders demonstrate a strong likelihood to seek verbal consent, challenge inappropriate behavior, and report or confront sexual misconduct.

Perception of Law School Handling Sexual Misconduct

There are contrasting views of BLS's handling of sexual misconduct. Most students responding to the survey believe it is moderately likely that BLS takes steps to protect the safety of the person making a report about sexual misconduct and very likely or moderately likely that BLS keeps knowledge of sexual misconduct reports to those who need to know to respond properly. Most responders believe it is not likely that BLS both ensures that all parties in a sexual misconduct report receive equal treatment and takes corrective actions to address factors that may have contributed to the report of sexual misconduct.

Most responders agree that they both have confidence that BLS will administer formal procedures to address complaints of sexual misconduct in a fair manner and that they understand the school policy(s) to address complaints of sexual misconduct. Most responders also agree that they understand the difference between BLS's sexual misconduct policy and the relevant penal code as well as how BLS defines sexual misconduct. 58.82% of responders strongly agree that they know how to reach BLS's Title IX Coordinator. 35.29% of responders agree that if they or a friend were to be subject to sexual misconduct that they would know where to go on campus for help, while 23.53% strongly disagree. 29.41% of responders agree that they understand what happens when a student reports a claim of sexual misconduct while 29.41% disagree and 20.59% strongly disagree.

Incidents

Specific experiences of sexual harm will not be disclosed publicly due to confidentiality, but the feedback will be used internally to guide further actions. The school acknowledges the bravery of those who shared their stories and reaffirms its commitment to providing resources and support. This survey highlights areas where BLS must continue to focus efforts to ensure

student safety, address sexual violence effectively, and provide clear, accessible resources for all students.

Resources:

- [Brooklyn Law School Sexual Misconduct Policy](#)
- [New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault's Resource Guide](#)